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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
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David T. Read
Acting Director Health Assessment Policy Staff, CDER
Food and Drug Administration
1451 Rockville Pike, HFD-7
Rockville, MD 20852

REFEXAM UNIT


Dear Mr. Read:

The attached application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. 6,159,229 was filed on November 26, 2003, under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

The assistance of your Office is requested in confirming that the product identified in the application, S8 Over-the-Wire System (Driver® Stent Delivery System), has been subject to a regulatory review period within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(g) before its first commercial marketing or use and that the application for patent term extension was filed within the sixty-day period after the product was approved. Since a determination has not been made whether the patent in question claims a product which has been subject to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, or a method of manufacturing or use of such a product, this communication is NOT to be considered as notice which may be made in the future pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

Our review of the application to date indicates that the subject patent would be eligible for extension of the patent term under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

Inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-3159 (telephone) or (703)872-9411 (facsimile).


Karin Ferriter
Senior Legal Advisor
Office of Patent Legal Administration
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

cc: Michael J. Jaro, Esq.
Chief Patent Counsel
Medtronic Vascular
3576 Unocol Place
Santa Rosa CA 95403



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REEXAM UNIT

Michael J. Jaro, Esq.
Chief Patent Counsel
Medtronic Vascular
3576 Unocol Place
Santa Rosa CA 95403

In re Application for Patent Term Extension for:
U.S. Patent No. 6,159,229
Filed: November 26, 2003

A review of the Office assignment records do not reflect that the change of name from Medtronic AVE to Medtronic Vascular was recorded. Exhibit A otherwise appears to include records of the chain of title from the inventor to Medtronic AVE, but does not appear to include a document demonstrating the change of name.

Applicant is required to record the change of name from Medtronic AVE to Medtronic Vascular. If the above-identified patent is extended under 35 U.S.C. 156, the extension will issue to the assignee of record at the time of mailing of the Notice of Final Determination, e.g., Medtronic AVE, Inc.

Inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-3159 (telephone) or (703)872-9411 (facsimile).



Karin Ferriter
Senior Legal Advisor
Office of Patent Legal Administration
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for Patent Examination Policy